

(Mrs. BIGGERT addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### AMERICA IS LOSING ITS ALLIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in dismay at the self-inflicted isolation of our country and wonder if it is too late to recover from the most catastrophic failure in diplomacy in American history. We are left with no alternative to war, gradually each day even, though we have not been attacked and even though there is no claim of imminent attack.

War is the most serious effect of this failure but it is not all we have lost. Enough of the finger pointing and ally bashing. Us against the world is a completely unnecessary result when we have been dealing with a totalitarian tyrant like Saddam. We have been seized by the hubris of our own power, losing everything that matters to us in foreign affairs, especially at a time of global terrorism when we need each and every ally we can get. We are losing each and every one of our major allies. You can cite the small countries all you want to, but when you lose the permanent members of the Security Council, you cannot blink that, no matter who you are.

We have endangered our closest allies, beginning with England. Poor Tony Blair. He is permanently politically damaged now. He will be weakened in all he does. Pervez Musharraf, the most critical in our anti-terrorism allies, faces wholesale opposition at home. What in the world are we going to do if he falls?

We have thrown to the wind the spontaneous coalition that gathered around us after 9/11, and yet it seems that we believe it is all the administration's fault.

Actually, the President's approach sowed the seeds of its own destruction because he began by announcing an invasion strategy. Had he started with meetings and consultation with our allies, of putting proposals on the table, beginning with inspections, graduating with tougher and tougher action, he would have his coalition by now. In fact, he had to be convinced to consult at all. I remember his making fun of the notion of going to the United Nations until members of his own party, former officials of former administrations, advised that it was important to seek a coalition.

Mr. Speaker, the lesson of this wholesale failure of the greatest power left, with everybody running from it, amounts to you cannot be a world leader if you cannot convince others to follow. And the second lesson is that if you have the power, you do not have to flaunt it. Used skillfully, you can bring people to you simply because you are

the greatest power in the world. God bless our country. May we still be saved from this catastrophe.

#### PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY 108TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Clause 2 of House Rule XI, I submit for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following rules of procedure for the Select Committee on Homeland Security in the 108th Congress.

##### RULES OF PROCEDURE ADOPTED MARCH 4, 2003

###### 1. CONVENING OF MEETINGS

The regular meeting date and time for the transaction of business of the Select Committee on Homeland Security ("the Committee") shall be at 9 o'clock a.m. on the first Friday of each month, unless otherwise directed by the Chairman.

The date, time, place and subject matter of any hearing of the Committee shall, except as provided elsewhere in these rules, be announced at least one week in advance of the commencement of such hearing. The notice requirement may be abridged or waived in extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Chairman with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member.

The date, time, place and subject matter of any meeting, other than a hearing or a regularly scheduled meeting, shall be announced at least 36 hours in advance for a meeting taking place on a day the House is in session, and 72 hours in advance of a meeting taking place on a day the House is not in session, except in the case of a special meeting called under Clause 2(c)(2) of House Rule XI.

###### 2. PREPARATIONS FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Under direction of the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, designated majority and minority committee staff, respectively, shall brief Members of the Committee at a time sufficiently prior to any Committee meeting to assist the Committee Members in preparation for such meeting and to recommend any matter which the Committee Members might wish considered during any meeting. Such briefing shall, at the request of a Member, include a list of all pertinent papers and other materials that have been obtained by the Committee that bear on matters to be considered at the meeting.

###### 3. MEETING PROCEDURES

Meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public except that a meeting or any portion thereof may be closed to the public if the Committee determines by record vote in open session and with a majority present that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken on such matters would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person, or otherwise would violate any rule of the House. The determination whether any such discussion or testimony, or papers and other materials in connection therewith, shall be presented in open or executive session shall be made by the Chairman in conformity with the rules of the House and these rules. Opening statements at any hearing, mark-up, or other meeting of the Committee or any sub-committee may be given by any Member who is present within five minutes after the hearing, mark-up, or

other meeting is called to order, in his or her discretion, in each case not to exceed three minutes. With the consent of the Committee, prior to the recognition of the first witness for testimony, any Member, when recognized for opening statement, may completely defer his or her three-minute opening statement and instead use those three minutes during the initial round of witness questioning.

One-third of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except in the following circumstances, in which a quorum shall be a majority of the Committee: ordering a report; entering executive session; releasing executive session material; issuing a subpoena; immunizing a witness; and reporting contempt. Two Members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of holding hearings to take testimony and receive evidence.

In full Committee or subcommittee, the Chairman may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chairman may resume proceedings on a postponed vote at any time, provided that all reasonable steps have been taken to notify Members of the resumption of such proceedings. When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

Whenever the Committee by roll call vote reports any measure or matter, the report of the Committee upon such measure or matter shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of, and the votes cast in opposition to, such measure or matter, or any amendment thereto. If at the time of the approval of a measure or a matter by the Committee a Member of the Committee gives notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views for inclusion in the report to the House thereon, that Member shall be entitled to not less than three additional calendar days after the day of such notice (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day) to file such views, in writing and signed by the Member, with the Clerk of the Committee.

###### 4. PROCEDURES RELATED TO THE TAKING OF TESTIMONY

Notice. Reasonable notice shall be given to all witnesses appearing before the Committee.

Oath or Affirmation. Testimony of witnesses shall be given under oath or affirmation which may be administered by the Chairman or his designee, except that the Chairman of the Committee may not require an oath or an affirmation where the Chairman determines that it would not be appropriate under the circumstances.

Questioning of Witnesses. Committee questioning of witnesses shall be conducted by Members of the Committee and such committee staff as are authorized by the Chairman or presiding Member. In the course of any hearing, each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the questioning of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness. The Chairman, or the Committee by motion, may permit an equal number of majority and minority Members to question a witness for a specified, total period that is equal for each side and not longer than thirty minutes for each side. The Chairman, or the Committee by motion, may permit Committee staff of the majority and minority to question a witness for a specified, total period that is equal for each side and not longer than thirty minutes for each side.